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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA838

Hawaii Crustacean Fisheries; 2012 Northwestern Hawaiian Islands
Lobster Harvest Guideline

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National
Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notification of lobster harvest guideline.

SUMMARY: NMFS establishes the annual harvest guideline for the
commercial lobster fishery in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands
(NWHI) for calendar year 2012 at zero lobsters.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jarad Makaiau, NMFS Pacific
Islands Region, 808-944-2108.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NWHI commercial lobster fishery is
managed under the Fishery Ecosystem Plan for the Hawaiian
Archipelago. The regulations at 50 CFR 665.252(b) require NMFS to
publish an annual harvest guideline for lobster Permit Area 1,
comprised of Federal waters around the NWHI. Regulations
governing the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the
NWHI prohibit the unpermitted removal of monument resources (50
CFR 404.7), and establish a zero annual harvest guideline for
lobsters (50 CFR 404.10(a)). Accordingly, NMFS establishes the
harvest guideline for the NWHI commercial lobster fishery for

calendar year 2012 at zero lobsters. Thus, no harvest of NWHI lobster resources is allowed.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Dated: December 7, 2011.

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National Marine Fisheries Service.

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